

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 16-18 stand allowed, claims 1, 2 and 10-14 are rejected and claims 6-9 objected to in the outstanding Official Action. Claim 6 has been cancelled without prejudice (and incorporated into independent claim 1) and claims 1, 7 and 9 amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 5, 7-14 and 16-18 remain in this application.

On page 4, section 6 of the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 6-9 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants have cancelled claim 6 without prejudice and added the limitation of claim 6 to independent claim 1. Applicants have also amended the dependencies of claims 7 and 9 to depend from claim 1.

Accordingly, with the Examiner's indication of claim 6 containing allowable subject matter and with claim 6 now being incorporated into amended claim 1, it is believed that claim 1 is in condition for allowance and all claims dependent thereon, i.e., claims 2, 5 and 7-14.

Also on page 4 at section 7, the Examiner indicates that claims 16-18 have been allowed.

In view of the above amendments, all remaining claims 1, 2, 5, 7-14 and 16-18 are in condition for allowance, thereby obviating any further rejection of claims under Phillips (WO 01/93337).

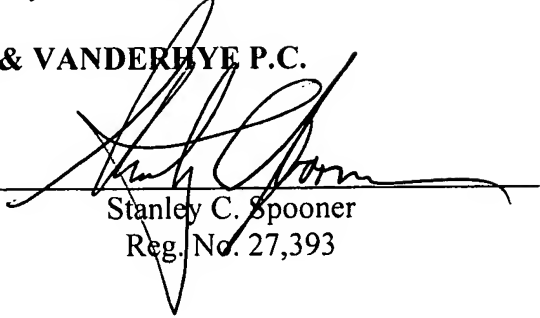
Having responded to all objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Official Action, it is submitted that remaining claims 1, 2, 5, 7-14 and 16-18 are in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

PHILLIPS et al.
Appl. No. 10/577,938
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Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: _____


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